

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As the below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: "FUEL-FIRED WATER HEATER WITH DUAL FUNCTION COMBUSTION CUTOFF SWITCH IN ITS DRAFT STRUCTURE", the specification therefor being attached hereto.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified application, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119(a)-(d) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or of any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the U.S.A. listed below and have also identified below any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or of any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the U.S.A. having a filing date before that of the application(s) of which priority is claimed:

NONE

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

NONE

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56 which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and

the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

NONE

And I hereby appoint J. RICHARD KONNEKER, Reg. No. 28,867; and MARLIN R. SMITH, Reg. No. 38,310 of the firm of KONNEKER & SMITH, P.C. my attorneys to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

I request that all correspondence be addressed to:

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Plano, Texas 75074  
972/516-0030

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full name of inventor: Bruce A. Hotton

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Citizenship: U.S.A.

Inventor's signature: B. A. Hotton

Date: 8/9/03